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MEETING
McCLELLAN AIR FORCE BASE
RECLAMATION PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

Vineland School Auditorium
6450 20th Street
Rio Linda, California

Wednesday, November 4, 1998
6:30 p.m.

Janet H. Nicol
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License Number 9764

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1 APPEARANCES

2 STAFF:

3 Merianne Briggs, Facilitator
Paul Brunner
4 Kirsten Christopherson
Roxanne Yonn
5

6 PUBLIC SPEAKERS:

7 Del Callaway
Gary Falxa
8 Maynard Gains
Sheila Guerra
9 Erwin Hayer
Jeannie Lewis
10 Frank Miller
Ken Peachey
11 Charles Yarbrough
Imogene Zander
12

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: If I can have everyone find a
3 seat and get comfortable, we're ready to start our meeting
4 here.

5 Okay. My name is Merianne Briggs and I work for
6 environmental management in the Community Relations
7 Department, and I'd like to welcome you all here tonight.

8 My duty tonight is to go ahead and facilitate the
9 meeting, and that means to keep us on agenda and on time.

10 This is Roxanne Yonn, and she will be assisting.

11 If you've had a chance to take a look at our
12 welcome slide, you'll see that McClellan Air Force Base will
13 be doing a project to restore and improve conditions and
14 natural habitat.

15 And the purpose of this meeting tonight then will
16 be to gather your input. We want to look for your
17 suggestions on how this project should proceed, how you feel
18 that you would like to see it go.

19 I'd like to say that we don't have all the answers
20 yet and that's why we're here to get your input.

21 We'll have two speakers tonight, Mr. Paul Brunner,
22 who is a director of environmental management, and Kirsten
23 Christopherson, who is one of our natural resource
24 specialists.

25 I have a little bit of business to do here. We

1 have a court reporter with us, so your comments will be used
2 as part of a final document in regards to this project.

3 And you'll notice here at the end that we do have
4 a public comment period. If you like, you can make a verbal
5 comment. We ask then that you would come to the microphone
6 and do that. Or if you feel better about it, we do have
7 papers in the back so that you can go ahead and fill out and
8 do a written comment.

9 If you notice on here there is my name and address
10 so that you can send it to me. And I ask that we receive
11 these by close of business on November 19th so that we will
12 be able to get your comments into the record.

13 This sheet does have a dual purpose also. At the
14 end of the presentation we will have a very short time for
15 you to go ahead and ask questions that you might need to
16 clarify a point that was made during the presentation.

17 If, as I mentioned before, we don't have all the
18 answers and if there's something that we can't answer
19 tonight, I'd ask that you go ahead and put your name and
20 address on here and write your question down, and once I get
21 an answer I'd be able to get back with you through the mail.

22 Also on the back table there's a packet for you
23 for your convenience and it's copies of all the slides that
24 we have in the presentation tonight. And go ahead and feel
25 free, these are yours, write any comment that you might have

1 as you go along that would help you in the end to formulate
2 what you'd like to say.

3 Or like I mentioned before, if you have a
4 particular slide that you don't understand and need
5 clarification on, you can also write your question there and
6 that would help at the end when we're looking for that
7 period.

8 Okay. Now that we got some of the housekeeping
9 done, I'd like to go ahead and take a look at our agenda.

10 We'll start out first with Mr. Brunner talking to
11 us about the purpose of the project and the project
12 schedule.

13 The meeting will be turned over to Kirsten, who
14 will be able to give us some information on natural
15 resources.

16 And then Mr. Brunner will come back again and tell
17 us the options that we have currently available for this
18 project.

19 At the end, the public comment period. And in the
20 interest of saving time, we ask that you do limit your
21 comment to three minutes.

22 So with that I'd like to go ahead and start the
23 presentation and call up Mr. Brunner, director of
24 environmental management.

25 MR. BRUNNER: Okay. Thank you, Merianne.

1 If you can put the first slide back up, the
2 welcome slide. I'd like to make a couple points on this
3 slide to highlight for you.

4 The first one is that the very first bullet,
5 you'll see that come up several times in the course of the
6 meeting, where the Air Force is committed to restoring the
7 damaged habitats, and we'll describe what those are in more
8 detail as we go through the project. Reemphasizing that we
9 are looking for your comments and suggestions on potential
10 restoration options that we have.

11 Next slide.

12 All right. First, I'm going to go to the
13 chronology of events, and I cut all the various events down
14 to one slide that took place as some history for you. The
15 work that we did, and what I'm referring to as the work was
16 the work that damaged the creeks in the first place, which
17 was the cleaning of the creeks that took place. It was done
18 in October of '97.

19 What I have here on my left is a picture of the
20 creeks that go through McClellan, and this is the outline of
21 the McClellan Air Force Base. We're currently located right
22 around in this area west of McClellan.

23 There are several creeks that go through
24 McClellan. There is Don Julio that runs through off to the
25 west here, and also Magpie Creek that comes across over to

1 here. And that is what the blue signifies with the creeks.

2 Next slide.

3 Same slide, a little bit different color scheme.

4 And again we have the creeks. What we're trying to
5 highlight here is the red area are the areas where we ended
6 up cleaning the creeks during the time of the project, where
7 the habitats were impacted.

8 A good portions of creeks that we have like
9 through this portion of the base are lined, concrete lined,
10 but this area over here is not. It is a natural habitat in
11 the area.

12 And the focus of the restoration efforts we're
13 talking about is really in the area that's circled here on
14 the west side of the base, which is where the habitats exist
15 that we're going to be trying to restore.

16 Now, as a contrast for you that we made, there are
17 some posters on the side here, later on if you want to look
18 at these in more detail you can look at, is the contrast of
19 what happened when the creek was cleaned.

20 And we did the cleaning for flood reasons during
21 that time to make the flow of the water go off base.

22 But this is where Magpie Creek, actually this is
23 Don Julio, looked before the cleaning, and then this is the
24 way it looked pretty close after, and today this is the way
25 it looks and it looks pretty brown. It's now been through

1 the summertime when we took the picture. And there is some
2 growth that is reoccurring, but it's quite a bit of contrast
3 from what the way it was before.

4 Okay. The reason why we come tonight is part of
5 the National Environmental Policy Act process, NEPA process
6 we call it, where we do environmental documentation of a
7 proposed project. This is a requirement on all federal
8 actions, particularly major federal actions that we do.

9 And the particular project that we're looking at
10 to do the environmental analysis for is the restoration of
11 the creeks that we have. So as we go through that, we're
12 going to analyze the project that we have and come up with
13 the environmental impacts that are created or caused by
14 restoring the creek.

15 The proponent, which is the Air Force, has to
16 assess the environmental impacts of the preferred
17 alternative.

18 And what will come from the results of tonight's
19 meeting is we're going to have your advice and also tomorrow
20 night's advice that will be given to us, we'll come up with
21 a list of alternatives, of one of which the proponent, which
22 is the Air Force, will choose a preferred alternative.

23 We do not have a preferred alternative tonight, so
24 I'm not going to be able to share with you what our
25 corrective measures are. We want to get your advice and

1 then build it into what that preferred alternative is.

2 The Air Force will end up choosing an alternative
3 based on input and what is best to do.

4 Tonight also represents public involvement, which
5 the NEPA process asks for us to do.

6 And the document that will come through this is
7 not a final decision document. Under the process that we
8 have under the federal law, requires us to gather input and
9 make it one of the decision tools that the people that make
10 the final decision will look at, and all your various
11 recordings and comments that come from the night will be in
12 an appendix to the document for people to review to be able
13 to make that decision.

14 Next slide.

15 This is a little bit different presentation of
16 what I was just saying, but in a block diagram of the NEPA
17 process.

18 The very first step of this process is to define
19 the action and in our particular case that's been done, the
20 defining of the action is we're going to restore the creek.

21 The next step that we do is to scope the
22 alternatives, which we're doing tonight, is to get input,
23 advice from you all and take those that will build our
24 alternative selections.

25 From that, we'll go through and start gathering

1 and analyzing what those alternatives are. We'll write the
2 document. We'll publish and review the document and you'll
3 get a chance to see the document later on as it comes. I
4 have a schedule and I'll show you that. Then a final
5 document will be issued.

6 Next slide.

7 This is the schedule.

8 And you might raise that up just a little bit.

9 And there we go.

10 Now, when you look at this, there's a couple color
11 schemes on here that I'll highlight for you.

12 To date what I've been talking in the slides,
13 talked about, the NEPA process, the environmental assessment
14 process of the project, but you'll also see here -- and all
15 those steps are shown in black on the slide. You also start
16 to see this red. And I'll describe that for you in a second
17 what the red means.

18 But as far as the environmental assessment process
19 goes is we will start out through here. We did receive
20 input from the Fish and Wildlife Service as to what their
21 proposals were as to what they would like to see done and
22 we're working with them to try to make sure we understand
23 what their requirements are, to incorporate in their
24 planning.

25 We're now here at this point in the scoping

1 meetings that are shown here. There's one tonight and
2 there's one tomorrow night on the other side of the base.
3 We have a chance to get everyone's input for us.

4 From that time then, we'll have verbal comments
5 and you have a chance to give us written comments from the
6 public until the 19th of November. So if you don't have
7 everything thought out tonight you can still give us written
8 comments and we'll consider those.

9 We'll take that into consideration and come to
10 this what we call a DOPAA, Description of Proposed Action
11 and Alternatives. That's where we'll take the advice and
12 start to develop alternatives as to what we can do. And
13 from that the Air Force will select a preferred alternative,
14 which one we're going to proceed to analyze and try to
15 proceed with.

16 Then as we go through that we'll use the DOPAA as
17 a decision then for the environmental analysis that we have.
18 All the alternatives are also analyzed during the process.
19 The preferred alternative is much more thoroughly analyzed,
20 but all alternatives will get analyzed for environmental
21 impacts.

22 It will then get published in the middle part of
23 January.

24 At that time you'll get to see what the results
25 were and make comment whether or not we're on track or not

1 in what we're doing.

2 We'll finalize the document if we have buy-in from
3 where we are and it's a go, we should be ready, as far as
4 the environmental assessment, to proceed sometime next
5 March, in that time frame, to start doing the restoration
6 work.

7 Now let me go to the red. What the red would show
8 is the planning that we planned to do once we have the
9 preferred alternatives on target. We will have a consultant
10 that specializes in this area start to prepare the plans as
11 to what the project should be and how to restore the
12 property.

13 And that planning process will start and also go
14 on simultaneously with the environmental documentation that
15 we're preparing in the reassessment. And the contractors
16 that we have working will interact back and forth and make
17 sure they are together on what the documents are saying.

18 That plan we have targeted will also then come out
19 about the same time as the environmental assessment, and
20 also be out there for people to look at and have comments on
21 if we are on track.

22 If everything goes right, we'd be again ready to
23 start the action, if weather permits, in the March time
24 frame.

25 If weather is not permitting, we'll have to slide

1 and not do it at that time.

2 Next slide.

3 Couple important points to reiterate is as we work
4 through here the Air Force will restore the creeks through
5 that, that was a commitment that we gave to the various
6 parties such as Fish and Wildlife and to the Corps of
7 Engineers and other people that are in the area. We need to
8 go back and restore the creeks for the habitats that were
9 there.

10 What does happen is that there is in the future,
11 whatever we go to do that, typically during a project there
12 is, if you've impacted a habitat or if you're -- if you've
13 impacted the habitat you've got to go back in and do
14 additional work. That's regardless whether or not you did
15 it on a permitted conditions or unpermitted condition, you
16 still have to go back and do additional work in that area.

17 In this particular case, I think that the biggest
18 issue for us tonight as we work through alternatives is what
19 is the proposed future use of the property off-base, as we
20 go through and do the additional work beyond just doing the
21 restoring of the creeks. If we restore beyond on the base
22 in that area for the land for additional work that is
23 probably most likely is going to be needed to be done, that
24 starts the impact on the land use.

25 And so as we go through that, if we restore the

1 entire west side or more areas for habitats that will start
2 to influence then what that land is going to be used for,
3 because once you start to do these things to restore the
4 area, they become really coded in law as to how you're going
5 to proceed.

6 And that goes to this point here, and I'll come
7 back and talk more about that when I get back on options.

8 Next slide.

9 What I'd like to do now is shift and we're going
10 to, Kirsten Christopherson, from my office, natural resource
11 person, will come and walk through and describe the agency's
12 habitat in terms of impacts for you, and I'll come back and
13 talk more about options.

14 Kirsten.

15 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: Good evening.

16 Okay. As Mr. Brunner said, first of all I'm going
17 to give you a brief run-through on the agencies that are
18 involved in this.

19 I'll then discuss the habitats that were impacted
20 and go through a couple of the terms you'll need to
21 understand when we do talk about the options a little bit
22 later.

23 And then I'm going to give you the measurements
24 that we have taken on the impacts.

25 The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is a federal

1 agency that oversees the Endangered Species Act of 1973.
2 This is the agency that actually determines the threatened
3 and endangered status of these species and they ensure the
4 protection and recovery of these listed species.

5 The California Department of Fish and Game is a
6 state agency which oversees the wildlife resources of the
7 state. They protect the state-listed species and they
8 regulate and enforce actions in our creeks. So for us this
9 would apply to creeks Don Julio and Magpie that we are
10 discussing tonight.

11 The US Army Corps of Engineers is also a federal
12 agency and they oversee projects that we do in the nation's
13 waters. They also share enforcement with the Environmental
14 Protection Agency, the EPA.

15 Regional Water Quality Control Board is a division
16 of the State Water Resources Control Board, and they develop
17 and enforce water quality objectives under the Clean Water
18 Act.

19 Okay. So on to our habitats, we have some
20 pictures associated with these definitions as well.

21 This is a portion of the riparian area along Don
22 Julio Creek on the base, on the west side. Riparian area is
23 comprised of plants that require a lot of water, so we find
24 trees like cottonwoods and willows and oaks that to do
25 require a lot of water. They typically support a lot of

1 wildlife species, because they provide food, water, nesting
2 areas and protective cover.

3 More specifically on the base we have what's
4 called the valley foothill riparian, and one of the
5 potential species that lives in the area is the giant garter
6 snake, and these are federally and state threatened.

7 And elderberry shrubs exist in this riparian area.
8 And these shrubs are home to the valley elderberry longhorn
9 beetle. And these beetles are about three-quarters of an
10 inch long and they live most of their lives in the larval
11 stage in the stems of these shrubs.

12 Okay. A couple of the other areas that are
13 impacted are the freshwater marsh and these are areas that
14 exist along the banks of the creek where the water floods up
15 for long periods of time. These are comprised of plant
16 species that many of us recognize like the cattail over
17 here.

18 We also have the creekbeds which have year-round
19 flows of water, and this is home to many fish and amphibians
20 and reptile species. And all of this makes up potential
21 habitat for the giant garter snake.

22 We also have the vernal pools, and these are
23 shallow depressions which have a type of soil that do not
24 allow the water to completely drain out, so during the rainy
25 season we get these pools and see somewhat in here there's a

1 slight depression in there. We have flowers out along the
2 edge.

3 These pools are crucial for the threatened vernal
4 pool fairy shrimp. And there's a picture of them right
5 there and they do swim in this upside-down way.

6 The first term I'm going to describe for you is
7 restoration. This is basically to bring an ecological
8 system back to its former state, so trying to put it back as
9 it was before any impacts.

10 And creation, on the other hand, is to actually
11 conduct an ecological system in an area where it did not
12 previously exist.

13 And then we have preservation. This is setting
14 aside habitat forever, so basically no development or damage
15 would occur to it in the future.

16 And it's important to note that anything that we
17 create or restore also must be preserved forever.

18 Couple other terms.

19 We have the mitigation bank. This is basically a
20 large area of constructed preserved wetland, which basically
21 we can use to substitute for our own, and we would pay a
22 company to do this for us.

23 On the other hand we have the non-bank off-site
24 mitigation where the Air Force would actually go out and
25 purchase land and set it aside, and all of this would be

1 done in accordance with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

2 Okay. As far as what we measured on the impacts,
3 I'm going to have to go to a couple posterboards, and
4 hopefully you'll be able to see that.

5 I can't go up too much further because of the
6 microphone, but hopefully you can see pretty well.

7 This is the west side of the base. This is Don
8 Julio Creek here. This is Magpie Creek here.

9 You have a similar page in your handout, which is
10 actually this next posterboard I'll get to, if you need a
11 closer view.

12 Anyway, this green area along in here is the
13 riparian habitat before it was disturbed. Then we also have
14 the freshwater marsh, this blue area along here. These are
15 the vernal pools scattered about here. Here's Beaver Pond
16 if you're familiar with the base at all. Then over here the
17 elderberry shrubs on this corner here.

18 Okay. So then as you can see in your handouts, if
19 you can't see this very well, we have highlighted in gray
20 the areas that were actually impacted, and then we have
21 acreages summarized on the table up on the screen.

22 Basically the riparian was about three acres, and
23 this is approximately equal to a football field.

24 Then we also have the creekbed, which is basically
25 the black lines you see going through there. And this was

1 about 1.79 acres.

2 Freshwater marsh, which is in here, .67 acres.

3 Then the vernal pools we have a couple pools up
4 here that were damaged at a different time, that was in
5 March '98.

6 And then we have a couple pools along the creek
7 that were the result of creek clearing as well. And that
8 was .22 acres.

9 The elderberry shrubs in this area here were about
10 .25 acres, and that's roughly the size of a basketball
11 court.

12 Okay. I believe that concludes my portion of it.
13 I'm going to turn it back over to Mr. Brunner.

14 MR. BRUNNER: Thank you, Kirsten.

15 What I'd like to do now is go into the discussion
16 of some of the options.

17 As we mentioned before in the areas that Kirsten
18 was pointing out on the posterboard there is the areas that
19 were damaged on the habitats on the creeks and that that we
20 are going to repair on this project.

21 And for those that she pointed to, two of the
22 vernal pools that were damaged at other times, those were
23 the ones that came about where the trucks got stuck in the
24 vernal pools. So that's part of this project too, to do
25 repair, if you're familiar with that effort.

1 The additional mitigation I covered that before,
2 last time, is typically required for restoration work. And
3 that's really, I think, the essence of the options that
4 we're going to be talking about and alternatives in the
5 future is where does this additional mitigation occur at.

6 And the options really then go to is it on-site,
7 is it off-site?

8 And if it is on-site, there's a couple things that
9 tie into this decision process is, one, the future land use,
10 what is the future land use that's being proposed on this
11 area and it would be a shame to go ahead and build something
12 there that's going to be torn out later on or preempt
13 things, if that's what the public wants to do, and I know
14 there's issues back and forth in the community on this, but
15 we need to know what are the options and these forums are
16 where we get that information that we can consider.

17 Another thing about the on-site is the
18 availability of the soil and the types of conditions that we
19 have on the west side. If you're going to be building or
20 placing these habitats out there and create them you have to
21 have the right soil types to do that, and that would be a
22 decision process as to do we do additional work on base or
23 not, and a lot of that determines about the extent of what
24 we have to do.

25 So those are the on-base considerations.

1 Off-site there are the options that we talked
2 about.

3 And now these are off-site locations and that we
4 have if work was to be off-site for the additional work.
5 These are the locations. And there is a couple banking
6 areas, Sheridan mitigation bank, Orchard Creek mitigation
7 bank. Sheridan is located right here. McClellan Air Force
8 Base is here. Sheridan is right here. Yuba City is right
9 here, as a reference point. Orchard Creek is right there.
10 On this map you can see they're shown on green. There's a
11 posterboard back here too if you want to see closer later on
12 after the meeting or during the meeting if you want to look
13 at it.

14 And then there's a couple of options that we could
15 also go to off-site, which are located here that, given the
16 approval of Fish and Wildlife, we could go there and acquire
17 the land and then do off-site mitigation if that was the
18 choice that we opted to do.

19 Next slide.

20 Now, what this slide is trying to depict is
21 possible alternatives that we have on the project. And let
22 me walk through the table so you understand it.

23 Kirsten went through and described for you
24 different habitats that are out there and the different
25 critters that live in those habitats. There's the

1 elderberry shrubs and the valley elderberry and that that
2 live in one type of habitat. There's the freshwater marsh
3 with the giant garter snake. And then there's vernal pools
4 that we have. Those are really the three different types of
5 classifications of habitats that we're dealing with.

6 And we break them out on this side of the column
7 on this table.

8 On the options that we have from the previous
9 slide, we talked about on-site and off-site options. This
10 column is the on-site option and this is off-site at a bank,
11 mitigation bank, that's already there to take off-site work,
12 if that's what we chose to do. And this one is for the
13 non-bank option where we'd have to acquire land.

14 Now on here on each one of these slides you'll see
15 a cost per acre and we share this with you as a proximate
16 guide for your thinking as to what these type of things
17 cost. So we broke it down to a acreage. And we don't have
18 a total project cost. That is dependent on what is the
19 alternative going to be, and we don't have that.

20 But we do have costing per acre as to what these
21 types of things are.

22 And in any case across here in all these options
23 you'll see that the restoration on-site, and that's a given
24 that we have to do that, so like on here restoration on-site
25 for elderberry shrubs, there's \$12,000 per acre that we see

1 that we have to do that, and that carries on to the each one
2 of these options.

3 Now, if the additional mitigation for the
4 elderberry shrubs was done on base where we create and
5 replant new areas, that's about the same price.

6 But if you go off-site and you do the creation and
7 you have to get someone to do it for you off-site and buy
8 the land and that, the value is about three times more
9 expensive on-site than off-site. So as you balance that
10 with land use that's a costing that you have the balance
11 back and forth.

12 Same type of phenomenon occurs on the other areas.
13 On here again, the freshwater marsh it's about \$15,000 per
14 acre to restore the site.

15 Now, on the off-site bank, none of the banks that
16 we had here off-site are officially approved to do off-site
17 bank for freshwater, for the freshwater marsh, so that
18 option is precluded. So if we were to go off base with that
19 particular habitat, we would have to acquire property and
20 then restore it and create it, create it off-site. And
21 that's an approximate cost of \$20,000 per acre that we see
22 to do that.

23 Now, in vernal pools there's a couple options.
24 Again where we restore vernal pools that's about \$50,000 per
25 acre here. That carries across. If we were to preserve, we

1 have a lot of vernal pools as you'll see on the map, so if
2 you look at it, one option that we have is to preserve
3 vernal pools forever, and if that's taken as we preserve
4 them, if we choose that option, there's a range in here.
5 Most likely by preserving a site on-site as an Air Force
6 entity, the cost is much lower, but we gave you a range of
7 around five to 70 thousand dollars. It's closer to the
8 lower end if we preserve a site on base.

9 As we preserve sites on base, then that also
10 speaks to future land use, because you don't just preserve
11 for a few months, you preserve for a while, a long long
12 time, and the future landowner out there, which will be the
13 county, the LRA and that, will live with that preservation
14 if they determine to accept the property.

15 And then there's an option here creating vernal
16 pools and that's a cost. There is, you see the contrast
17 here about different costs and if you end up buying these
18 things for the non-banked area and create buying land and
19 installing it you can see it's more expensive to do these
20 sites.

21 Next slide.

22 The points to remember, and this is my last slide
23 before we go to public comment period, is that again for the
24 creek work that we have, we're going to restore the creeks,
25 and where we are in that area.

1 Land use is in the future is controlled by the LRA
2 as the land gets transferred, as we go to close on the
3 property, so they'll have a say in what happens in the
4 future. What we do here in this project, though, will
5 influence their options to the future.

6 And that's this one here.

7 So with that, Merianne, go to you.

8 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: All right. Do we need
9 clarification on any of the slides that were presented or on
10 any specific point?

11 Okay. Yes, sir.

12 FROM THE AUDIENCE: The non-bank off-site cost
13 there include the purchase of the property for that, is that
14 in addition?

15 MR. BRUNNER: The costs that we have would include
16 that, as far as what we're doing. That's the approximate
17 cost per acre to do that.

18 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Are there any other
19 questions?

20 FROM THE AUDIENCE: I want to make a comment.

21 MR. BRUNNER: We're going to go to comment.

22 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Hold on to your comment.

23 Yes, sir.

24 MR. MILLER: Frank Miller.

25 Is it possible to get a ballpark figure on the

1 total cost of some of these options?

2 MR. BRUNNER: No, it's not possible. We don't
3 have the options. We have the cost per acre, but until we
4 have the alternative there in the next month to come to that
5 cost, we don't have that.

6 MR. MILLER: But you know that the number of acres
7 involved in the vernal pool and the linear footage of damage
8 on the creeks, so isn't it possible to come up with a
9 ballpark figure on the total cost?

10 MR. BRUNNER: One could take the cost of those
11 acres that we have and just do a multiplication on that and
12 come to cost on that. We haven't done that for tonight.

13 MR. MILLER: Would you say that it would be over a
14 million dollars?

15 MR. BRUNNER: No.

16 With that, we go through the alternatives
17 selection and we come to the preferred alternative and we
18 propose what is the alternative. We'll be able to come up
19 with what the cost is, and you'll see that.

20 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Okay. All right. With that,
21 we're ready to move into our public comment period, and let
22 me do a little bit more housekeeping. That's a real tongue
23 twister.

24 As I mentioned earlier, on the back table we do
25 have the green comment cards if you feel better about

1 submitting your comment in writing. You can do so tonight
2 and hand it to me or you do have until November 19th to go
3 ahead and fill it out and mail it in.

4 Okay. If prefer to come up and make a verbal
5 comment, I ask that you come up to the microphone and state
6 your name and make your comment and limit it to three
7 minutes.

8 And in order to facilitate this, when you first
9 get up to start to speak, we'll go ahead and put up a little
10 green dot. After you've spoken for two minutes, we'll give
11 you a one-minute warning by putting up a yellow spot. And
12 at that time I'll give you a clue that it's time to start
13 summarizing and finishing up your statements. And then at
14 three minutes we'll go ahead and put up the red sign and
15 that's when I will ask you to summarize your comments.

16 Would you like to come up and make a comment?

17 Also I did not add in there, would you spell your
18 last name also so that we can have it for the record.

19 MR. YARBROUGH: My name is Chuck Yarbrough,
20 Y-a-r-b-r-o-u-g-h, a resident of the area and also the
21 community co-chair of McClellan Air Force Base Restoration
22 and Advisory Board.

23 We work on the environmental issues here all the
24 time at McClellan.

25 Quite concerned about this area. We, as a

1 community, generally speaking, love the area, and so since
2 the damage was done on the McClellan Air Force Base, our
3 recommendation would be to -- and I know several members of
4 the Restoration Advisory Board feel the same way -- is to do
5 all the improvements or the restoration work, the damage
6 that has been done, on the facility itself, because that's
7 where the damage was done, that's where it's most cost
8 effective and that's where the community for the most part,
9 I believe, wants it. I talked to several people in the
10 neighborhood that feel the same way about this.

11 Magpie Creek eventually on the other side of Raley
12 Boulevard is supposed to be a park running down the old
13 Magpie Creek channel all the way down to East Natomas
14 Drainage Canal or close to it.

15 So my recommendation as the community co-chair of
16 the McClellan Restoration Advisory Board, is the work be
17 done on McClellan Air Force Base, because it's cheaper, it's
18 the way to go because that's where the damage was done.

19 And that's about all I have to say. Thank you.

20 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Thank you, Chuck.

21 Anyone else like to come up and make a comment?

22 MS. LEWIS: Jeannie Lewis, L-e-w-i-s.

23 J-e-a-n-n-i-e.

24 I'm speaking as a member of the community here. I
25 live on 24th Street.

1 I would like to see McClellan replace all of the
2 damage to McClellan that was done on the creeks cost
3 effectively, because it's my tax dollars that would be going
4 towards this in one way or the other.

5 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Thank you.

6 Imogene, did you want to --

7 MS. ZANDER: Well, I'm going to start out by
8 saying there's no way you can replace the vernal pools.

9 Imogene Zander.

10 If you try to replace a vernal pool, you'll
11 destroy the whole thing out there. That's the only place
12 that there is vernal pools out there. A vernal pool
13 consists of clay, sand and water, and those are all the way
14 down.

15 They tried to do it at Stanford Ranch. They tried
16 to do it in Grass Valley and their buildings crumbled. They
17 had to abandon the idea.

18 So no matter how much rock you put in, it still
19 crumbles.

20 So I know what they're planning on doing away with
21 out there, and I know what they want to do, what the county
22 wants to do, and it is totally ridiculous for anybody to
23 spend the money out of the taxpayers' pocket to replace it,
24 if the sheriff's office and the police department and all of
25 them go in and destroy it.

1 And it can't be replaced. Nothing can be replaced
2 out there. So you can't move it. It has to stay there.

3 They want to move it clear up to Sheridan. That's
4 40 miles away. Well, it's over 40 miles.

5 Where you going to put a vernal pool? How you
6 going to move the vernal pools? There's no -- there's
7 nothing up there that you can -- how are you going to
8 replace them?

9 Mr. Brunner, can you answer me?

10 MR. BRUNNER: Well, Imogene, the proposals on the
11 banks that we have off-site typically do have pools already
12 that are there or habitats that they would then replace with
13 that Fish and Wildlife have accepted to create. So we
14 wouldn't just move them out there to do it.

15 And right now we haven't proposed that we would do
16 that. It's one of the options that we have to consider.

17 MS. ZANDER: So then these vernal pools would be
18 destroyed.

19 And then when the thing falls in and they figure
20 out that they can't run their heavy equipment and stuff out
21 there, it will all fall in, then when they figure that out
22 they're all gone. You've destroyed the whole thing out
23 there.

24 Another thing, Fish and Game, Fish and Wildlife
25 and California Native Plant Society has already said that

1 nothing could be done out there. It is permanently to be
2 left the way it is. But somebody went out and destroyed
3 quite a bit of it, so it has to be replaced where it is now.

4 Thank you.

5 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Thank you.

6 Sheila.

7 MS. GUERRA: My name is Sheila Guerra,
8 G-u-e-r-r-a, and I'm a RAB member, but I'd like to speak
9 first as a community member.

10 And my concerns are that the area in general is
11 growing and there's a lot of growth. There's not enough
12 open space as it is.

13 And I feel that this area was destroyed and that
14 it could have been prevented.

15 And I hold environmental management responsible
16 for the damages, because there wasn't anyone out there
17 overseeing what the engineers were doing.

18 It's costing the taxpayers a lot of money.

19 As a RAB member, my recommendations would be to
20 keep the mitigation on base and not to move it off-site.

21 I like the area out there. I think it should be
22 preserved for an environmental area for students and
23 environmental bird watchers groups, and a number of other
24 environmental things that could be put out there.

25 And I wouldn't want EVOC either to go in there and

1 disturb any of that area.

2 And at this point I feel that I would -- my
3 alternative, if this was to be moved off base or disturbed,
4 would be to protest this to the full extent.

5 Thank you.

6 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Thank you.

7 Are there any more?

8 MR. PEACHEY: My name is Ken Peachey, K-e-n,
9 P-e-a-c-h-e-y.

10 I live on Ascot Avenue. Just below that, Maggie
11 diversion ditch is my back property line. And they talk
12 about all this cleaning and everything else. I've lived
13 there 12 years, and I ain't never seen no work on that ditch
14 at all.

15 Now, I don't know where you've been doing your
16 work at. I know you've probably been doing it on the base.
17 What about downstream? Every time you guys have a fuel
18 spill or something, you always come to my back fence, drop
19 the god-damn hoses over the side and pump the stuff out of
20 there and put it in pumper trucks and haul it away. I mean,
21 that's not -- when is all this going to get straightened
22 out?

23 We had frogs down there in that place that had
24 about two and three heads. You know where I mean? All
25 different kinds of species that's not even noted in the

1 books, but they grew there anyway.

2 And I wish that you would state when you're going
3 to clean up here. You're supposed to have where the firemen
4 train and all this here malarkey. Well, what about all
5 that?

6 You tore out a whole bunch of stuff around there
7 and you never did -- folks put it back and never have.
8 Wildlife, those beetles and whatever else, the beaver pond,
9 and all you done is just get it out of there.

10 And, Mr. Brunner, I believe that was some of your
11 doings.

12 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Thank you for your comments.

13 I'd like to restate the purpose of the meeting,
14 and that is to go ahead and provide your input as to the
15 alternatives that you would prefer to use as far as the work
16 to be done.

17 MR. MILLER: Frank Miller.

18 Regarding restoration options, I believe that the
19 environmental restorations should only be done on McClellan
20 and on the damaged sites.

21 I believe we cannot lose sight of the reasons why
22 we are here tonight. Because of the negligence and
23 carelessness of environmental management, hundreds of
24 thousands of dollars of environmental damage was caused.

25 And I implore the Fish and Wildlife Service and

1 all regulatory agencies involved to impose a penalty and
2 punishment to deter and hopefully stop environmental
3 management's long track record of continued environmental
4 violations, malfeasance and taxpayer abuse.

5 Thank you.

6 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Is there anyone else for
9 comments?

10 MR. CALLAWAY: Del Callaway, C-a-l-l-a-w-a-y.

11 And I feel that the restoration should be done on
12 base. It's cheaper. Not to go off and buy any land, spend
13 any more money than has already been spent and what you
14 already will have to spend.

15 But at the same time I'd like to make the point
16 that it was not mentioned the intended use of the property
17 or the people that intended to use it and what they intended
18 to use it for.

19 I call your attention to your own e-mail, your own
20 Web page, in your ethics that you have on the computer, you
21 say be open, maintain credibility, press to solve the
22 problem quickly, involve the community, be responsive to the
23 community so that requests and needs, be happy and fair.

24 I don't think you've been any of that. I don't
25 think you've lived up to any part of this.

1 Now, we know that the LRA wants the base as
2 quickly as they can get it. They want all the buildings and
3 the property. We know that they're pushing for an EVOC out
4 there.

5 We feel that you were pressured into cleaning that
6 creek under the pretense of El Nino when we know the county
7 did not clean any of their creeks on El Nino. I've been on
8 base since 1984, and that creek has never been cleaned that
9 I know of, and I've been up and down that creek quite a few
10 times.

11 Also on your Web page you have a partnership with
12 called EPIC. It's a partnership with EPA, Cal EPA, the fed
13 EPA, the water board. I think that the water board and all
14 of the EPA officials turned their head when this took place.
15 I think that EM turned their head because they were in
16 charge of the restoration. They're in charge to keep this
17 property clean and to maintain it. And they allowed civil
18 engineers to go in there and do the work without supervision
19 from any EM employee.

20 Excuse me. I've got a sore throat.

21 Also, the contractors went out there and did their
22 work without supervision. The trucks went out and got stuck
23 and destroyed a couple vernal pools. When I asked if EM had
24 any supervision out there, and the answer was no.

25 You didn't check them. You didn't go out and

1 supervise them, and now you got all those signs to relace
2 where the truck went out. Not only did they go in and stick
3 one truck, but they sent a bigger truck and went out and
4 done three times the damage that the little truck did
5 getting the truck out.

6 I think the whole thing is under your ethics here.
7 I think it's not open. I think you're not being -- you're
8 not credible.

9 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Three minutes. Please
10 summarize.

11 MR. CALLAWAY: Does that include spelling my name
12 for you? I know she had the green sign up there.

13 Thank you.

14 MR. GAINS: I'm Maynard Gains. I'm a RAB member
15 and a community member.

16 Also I just like to see Magpie Creek, and it runs
17 across -- I don't live in the area, but our church is in the
18 area, and Magpie Creek goes right across our property.

19 And I just -- if they do the job, clean it up, I'm
20 satisfied with that.

21 But the other projects that was said in mind, I
22 agree with them if they clean it up and fix it up, I agree
23 with them hundred percent.

24 But the one thing that I don't like, and the
25 Magpie Creek, I didn't hear anything in the meeting about

1 this, but on the street where my church is located I
2 understand that that bridge they're going to take it down.
3 And I'm not -- I don't agree with that. I'm just hoping
4 they would make that street all the way out to Raley
5 Boulevard instead of closing that street up. And so that I
6 don't agree with.

7 Thank you.

8 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Thank you.

9 Are there any more verbal comments?

10 MR. HAYER: My name is Erwin Hayer, spelled
11 E-r-w-i-n, H-a-y-e-r.

12 I've lived within three-quarters of a mile of
13 Ascot Avenue since 1941.

14 When Magpie Diversion Creek was relocated, this
15 created an additional water problem in the lower Rio Linda
16 area.

17 At the present day, North Sacramento doesn't have
18 50-year protection from any flooding from Magpie Creek.
19 Cleaning the creek upstream at Raley Boulevard would allow
20 the water to get to that area much faster. The creek has
21 never been cleaned or the diversion creek has never been
22 cleaned since it was originally constructed in the middle of
23 the '50s.

24 I don't know who approved the creek cleaning, but
25 I think there's something seriously wrong with the

1 environmental management at McClellan Air Force Base that
2 allowed this to happen.

3 Thank you.

4 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Any more comments?

5 MS. ZANDER: Imogene Zander again.

6 I think that everything should be done back on
7 base. I think all the creeks should be cleaned and put back
8 the way they were. I think all the pools should be left the
9 way they are. I don't think they should be destroyed.

10 Thank you.

11 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Thank you.

12 MS. GUERRA: I just have a comment.

13 Sheila Guerra speaking.

14 Why wasn't Fish and Wildlife invited to this
15 meeting in the beginning? From the environmental
16 management. It wasn't in the newspaper is what I'm saying.

17 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: They were invited and --

18 MS. GUERRA: Are they going to make any comments?

19 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: We do have Gary, I can't
20 remember your last name.

21 MR. FALXA: Falxa.

22 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Falxa. I always have trouble
23 with your last name.

24 Gary Falxa is the new person that will be working
25 this issue with Fish and Wildlife.

1 MR. FALXA: I hadn't planned to make any comments.
2 I'm here more to hear the public's input at this point.

3 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Are there any more comments
4 for the record?

5 MS. GUERRA: Sheila Guerra speaking again.

6 I'd like to make a comment on the letter that was
7 sent from Fish and Wildlife to --

8 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Excuse me, Sheila.

9 MR. GUERRA: -- Mr. Paul Brunner in EM.

10 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Sheila, could I get you to
11 come to the microphone so we can get that on the tape.

12 MS. GUERRA: Sheila Guerra speaking. G-u-e-r-r-a.

13 I would like to make a comment on the letter that
14 was sent to Mr. Paul Brunner in environmental management
15 from Fish and Wildlife on the mitigation.

16 The letter, was it --

17 MR. BRUNNER: What's your comment?

18 MS. GUERRA: What I want to know is why it wasn't
19 sent out to more people and more people didn't know about
20 that letter.

21 MR. BRUNNER: Well, the letter that you're
22 referring to is the letter that we referenced in the
23 beginning on the chronology slide where the Fish and
24 Wildlife gave us the proposal, we acknowledged that they
25 used their input here. We're working with them on that.

1 And we don't typically send out correspondence to
2 everyone on it. We did distribute it during the RAB. You
3 have a copy of it. We gave it to the BCT to Chuck Yarbrough
4 to look at. He passed it out.

5 MS. GUERRA: Excuse me. You didn't send it out
6 to -- you sent the green sheet out, is that what I
7 understand?

8 MR. BRUNNER: Sheila, within the aspect of the
9 confines of this meeting --

10 MS. GUERRA: No, I want an answer, Mr. Brunner.

11 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Please.

12 MR. BRUNNER: I gave you an answer, Sheila.

13 MS. GUERRA: I want to know why the letter wasn't
14 sent out along with the green sheet.

15 MR. BRUNNER: We typically do not send out
16 correspondence on the projects to everyone on the effort.
17 We typically don't. There's nothing --

18 MS. GUERRA: Maybe that's why we don't that have
19 big of a turnout tonight.

20 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Are there any more comments?

21 MR. HAYER: I just have a question.

22 I attended a meeting here about a month ago, put
23 my name on the mailing list, and I haven't received anything
24 yet.

25 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Mr. Hayer, I'll speak with

1 you after this meeting. The intent of the meeting is to get
2 your input as far as which alternative you would like to
3 choose. I'll get with you afterwards.

4 Are there any more comments as far as option
5 preferences?

6 Okay. And as I mentioned earlier, I encourage you
7 to take these home with you and if you can think of
8 something else to write down, a comment that you would like
9 to, feel free, mail it into me by the 19th of November.

10 Thank you.

11 (Thereupon the meeting was adjourned
12 at 7:27 p.m.)

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1 CERTIFICATE OF SHORTHAND REPORTER

2

3 I, JANET H. NICOL, a Certified Shorthand Reporter
4 of the State of California, do hereby certify that I am a
5 disinterested person herein; that I reported the foregoing
6 meeting in shorthand writing; that I thereafter caused my
7 shorthand writing to be transcribed into typewriting.

8 I further certify that I am not of counsel or
9 attorney for any of the parties to said meeting, or in any
10 way interested in the outcome of said meeting.

11 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
12 this 9th day of November 1998.

13

14

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17

Janet H. Nicol
Certified Shorthand Reporter
License Number 9764

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MEETING
McCLELLAN AIR FORCE BASE
RECLAMATION PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

F.C. JOYCE SCHOOL CAFETERIA
6050 WATT AVENUE
NORTH HIGHLANDS, CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1998
6:30 P.M.

JAMES F. PETERS, CSR, RPR
Certified Shorthand Reporter
License No. 10063

PETERS SHORTHAND REPORTING CORPORATION (916) 362-2345

APPEARANCES

STAFF

Merianne Briggs, Facilitator
Paul Brunner, Director
Kirsten Christopherson
Roxanne Yonn

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

G. Blauth
Sheila Guerra
Erwin Hayer
Chuck Yarbrough

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1 PROCEEDINGS

2 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Good evening, everyone.
3 Welcome to our second meeting. My name is Merianne Briggs
4 and I work at Environmental Management Directorate at
5 McClellan Air Force Base in the community relations
6 department. And the purpose tonight is to facilitate the
7 meeting and keep us on schedule and keep us on the agenda.
8 This is Roxanne Yonn and she'll be assisting.

9 And if you had a chance to look at our welcome
10 slide, you'll notice that McClellan is going to do a project
11 to improve and restore natural conditions and habitats. And
12 the purpose of this meeting is to go ahead and gather your
13 preferences for how this work should be done.

14 We don't have all the answers yet. That's why we
15 are having this meeting that is to get your input. We have
16 two speakers tonight Mr. Paul Brunner from Environmental
17 Management. He's our Director. And we have a natural
18 resource specialist, Kirsten Christopherson. Our
19 presentation will run about 30 minutes.

20 (Thereupon an overhead presentation was
21 presented as follows.)

22 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: And at the end, if you noticed,
23 we do have a public comment period. We have a court reporter
24 here. Your comments will be taken and used in a final
25 document. And if you choose tonight not to go ahead and give

1 a verbal comment, we do have, at the table here, a comment
2 card. You can go ahead and write your comments down on this
3 and then hand it to me tonight, or my name and address is at
4 the bottom and you can go ahead and mail that to me later
5 on. I do have to have these comments in by the close of
6 business November 19th in order to be able to get it into the
7 record.

8 --o0o--

9 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: This green sheet does serve a
10 dual purpose. At the end of the presentation, we will have a
11 short period for clarification on things that were
12 presented. And if you have a question that we can't answer
13 right here, you can go ahead and write your question in on
14 here and then give that to me or mail it in. And I ask that
15 if you do that, please put your name and your address on
16 there so I can get back to you through the mail.

17 Also, over here at our sign-in table, we have a
18 packet of papers. They're copies of the slides that we have
19 during the presentation. And these are yours. You can go
20 ahead and use them to help you keep your thoughts together
21 for when you want to make your comment. You can go ahead
22 and, you know, write down if you have questions that you need
23 to have clarified or comments that you would want to put in
24 at the end.

25 In the interest of time, we ask that you limit your

1 comments later on to three minutes apiece. But we'll go
2 ahead and go over that again when we get to our comment
3 period.

4 Okay. If you take a look at the agenda, the first
5 thing on the agenda, we'll have Mr. Paul Brunner speak to us
6 about the purpose of this meeting and the purpose of the
7 project and also the schedule -- project schedule. Kirsten
8 Christopherson will take over and give us a little bit of
9 information on natural resources. And then Mr. Brunner will
10 return again and present to you the options that we currently
11 have. So with that, I'd like to go ahead and present
12 Mr. Brunner.

13 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Thank you, Merianne. Thank you
14 for coming.

15 --o0o--

16 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: I'd like to go back to the very
17 first slide again and make a couple of other points to this
18 and emphasize what Merianne was talking about is that the --
19 as we go through tonight, the Air Force is committed to
20 restore all damaged habitats, and we'll go through that and
21 point out where those habitats are, through the course of the
22 evening. And we are also very much looking for your comments
23 on the proposed action on the restoration project itself that
24 we have.

25 Next slide.

1 --o0o--

2 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: I'd like to go through a
3 chronology of events for you as to what led up to the -- to
4 where we are tonight. Back in October of 1997, there was a
5 creek cleaning project that took place by the United States
6 Air Force. During that time, there was a damaging that was
7 done to our natural resources on the base.

8 --o0o--

9 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: This map over here on the left
10 over here shows the creeks that flow through McClellan. And
11 here, the blacked out line that you see, is McClellan. And
12 tonight -- last night we were on the west side doing one of
13 these meetings. And by the way, if you attended last night's
14 meeting, this will be an exact duplicate of that meeting
15 except for the public comment period at the end, depending on
16 what comes with that. But we were on the west side to
17 receive comments there. Today, we're on this side of the
18 base receiving comments here.

19 So the black is the outline of the base. The blue
20 are the creeks that flow through the base. And the two of
21 concern are here are Don Julio Creek and Magpie Creek flowing
22 from the east to the west and over the top of the base over
23 here.

24 Next slide.

25 --o0o--

1 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Now, during the October time
2 frame, the areas of the creek that are shown in red, were
3 cleaned by the Air Force and the areas of key concern during
4 the cleaning are in the circled area right here, which we're
5 going to be representing as the west area, and that's what
6 our terminology typically is, is the west area. This is a
7 natural resource area that we have on McClellan and we'll be
8 describing that much more in detail for you, but that's where
9 the damage occurred.

10 These other areas on the creek many of them are
11 lined creeks that we had to do cleaning on, but the area we
12 will be focusing on is here.

13 --o0o--

14 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Now, to give you a contrast to
15 what took place on the creek cleaning. This is Don Julio.
16 And this is Don Julio Creek taken before the cleaning,
17 actually several years ago, that was there. And you can see
18 the overgrowth that was in the creek area. After the
19 cleaning, not immediately after, but very soon after, this is
20 the picture taken. You can see the vegetation removed. And
21 this is a picture taken very recently during the summertime.
22 It's grown out through here. It's starting to regrow in that
23 area, so it's still a stark contrast from what we have here.

24 --o0o--

25 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Back on the chronology, some of

1 the other significant events that come about is that in the
2 time frame that we have in January, Fish and Wildlife became
3 involved. And you'll have a description as to who they are
4 and their role a little bit later on in the presentation.
5 And the March time frame working with the members from the
6 RAB and that if this comes up -- I know, in fact, Sheila, you
7 ended up calling and we talked about what was going on. And
8 we got directly involved with community interface as to what
9 happened with the project.

10 In the May time frame, there was some incidental --
11 there was some truck damage on one of the vernal pools that
12 also happened during that time. That project and that damage
13 is included in the restoration project that we're talking
14 about tonight.

15 And then the September time frame Fish and Wildlife
16 did propose or give us some information as to how we should
17 proceed with the project. We're still working on issues or
18 items with them on that particular letter. And we'll be
19 doing that through the course of this project to make sure
20 that we do what we need to do.

21 And that brings us up to tonight. On November 4th
22 and 5th, last night we were on the west side of the base.
23 Today, here, on the 5th. We're doing the Environmental
24 Assessment Scoping meeting. And I'll describe to you what
25 that means.

1 Next slide.

2 --o0o--

3 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Okay. Now, the whole basis for
4 tonight is being here for the National Environmental Policy
5 Act. We call it NEPA. And it's a federal law that requires
6 us whenever we do a major federal action, and the restoration
7 of the creek would be deemed a major federal action, requires
8 us to go through and do an Environmental Assessment. So our
9 project that we're doing is the restoration of the creek and
10 that's what we'll be assessing.

11 It requires the proponent, which is the United
12 States Air Force, to do the work, to do the assessment and
13 come up with a list of alternatives as to how we can
14 accomplish that project. And tonight, after we get your
15 information, and from last night's meeting and from the
16 information that we receive in written form until the 19th of
17 November, we'll get that information and compile it and then
18 prepare a list of alternatives. And from that list of
19 alternatives we'll determine the preferred option that we
20 would go and accomplish.

21 But it requires this process that we go through
22 this, doing the scoping of that and public involvement.
23 Later on, there's another public involvement time frame, you
24 see that in the schedule. And this particular document that
25 we'll be preparing for this process is not a final decision

1 document. It isn't determining the fate of the project. It
2 is a key document that's required by federal law that we get,
3 we review and then the decision-maker, we'll take the
4 decisions from here and what the impacts are or the input
5 from these meetings and then include that in the decision.

6 --o0o--

7 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Okay. This is a slide that shows
8 just what I said in a little bit different format as to how
9 we are on a time line. We're in the NEPA process. We've
10 defined the action, which is restoring the creek. We're
11 scoping the alternatives, which we're doing tonight, getting
12 information on that. We'll analyze the information.
13 Determine alternatives. Write a document that will look at
14 all the alternatives and what the environmental impacts are.
15 And we'll publish, get input from information -- or comments
16 from the public and then prepare a final document.

17 Next slide.

18 --o0o--

19 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Now, this slide is dealing with
20 the west area. All the letters in here, the fonts and that,
21 are in black, deal with the Environmental Assessment process
22 that I've been talking to you about. And I'll get to the red
23 area in a second. If you can't see this very well, we do
24 have a handout in front of you that also helps you, if you
25 picked it up at the table.

1 On here this is the time schedule of the
2 Environmental Assessment work. And starting on the left-hand
3 side here, we did receive some guidance from Fish and
4 Wildlife, as I mentioned before. We're doing the public
5 scoping meetings here. We will be gathering your information
6 tonight on the written comments. I hope to have those all in
7 by the 19th of November, on our schedule. We will then take
8 that information and prepare what we call a DOPAA,
9 Description of Proposed Action Alternatives. And that's
10 where it lists all the various alternatives that we're going
11 to be considering. And from that, we'll take a preferred
12 option as to what we will try to accomplish or ask that our
13 consultants that are working with us, that are experts in
14 this area, they'll start to do the Environmental Assessment,
15 reviewing the alternatives.

16 From there, we'll then work through the November,
17 December, January, time frame. And our hope is to be able to
18 publish a document with the analysis done to the public in
19 mid-January, so they have a chance to review what we have.
20 It has a 30-day comment period, where the public can make
21 their comments. And from there, we hope to have a final
22 document that will be published. And that would set the
23 stage for us to be able to do the restoration work,
24 hopefully, in the March time frame, if the weather permits.

25 Now, the red item on here that you see refers to the

1 restoration project itself. Once we described -- or decided
2 what the preferred alternative is, we'll ask our consultants
3 that are working that area to then start to build the plan as
4 to what that restoration project would be. In there, as they
5 build those plans and that, that would lead directly into the
6 environmental analysis document that's being prepared. They
7 matched together very well.

8 We hope to have that done approximately the same
9 time or the same time frame as the Environmental Assessment,
10 so they can be published simultaneously and the public can
11 have the review at the same time to see, does it meet their
12 needs or have a fair chance to make their comments during
13 that time. Again, being ready to hopefully accomplish the
14 restoration of the damaged habitats in the March time frame
15 or very soon thereafter, depending upon weather.

16 Next slide.

17 --oOo--

18 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Now, the important points to
19 remember on this project is that the Air Force is committed
20 to restoring all the damaged habitats on the base that we
21 have. And we'll talk a little bit more about that later on
22 during Kirsten's review of the project. And you'll see where
23 those habitats are.

24 The future land use beyond the base. The land use
25 at McClellan into the future will impact what we do to some

1 extent on this project. Now, whenever you do a restoration
2 project and you have an impact on habitat, what happens is
3 that you usually have to do additional mitigation work beyond
4 just the restoration of the damaged habitat. So there will
5 be additional acres that will have to be improved.

6 Now, the habitats that we damage will be improved on
7 base. And that's a done deal really. It will happen. What
8 we're talking about here for options is that additional work
9 that we'll be working on.

10 Where does that work occur? Does it occur on base,
11 off base? I'll talk about that a little bit more later on,
12 but future land use is important. What is that land going
13 to be used for? One would not want to do a project and
14 improve a lot of area that later on future land use would
15 preempt. One would not want to do that and we would like to
16 know what those options are today, so we can include those
17 into our analysis now and at least take them into
18 consideration. And if we went and did the mitigation on base
19 and improved it, then it definitely will influence the future
20 land use.

21 Next slide.

22 --o0o--

23 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Okay. What we're going to do now
24 is I'm going to have Kirsten come forward and go over the
25 natural source overview, talk to you about the agencies,

1 habitat, terms and impacts.

2 Kirsten?

3 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: Okay. Good evening. First
4 I'll be talking about some of the agencies that are involved
5 in this process. I'll be also giving you an overview of the
6 habitats that were damaged. I will describe some terms that
7 are important for you to understand when we're discussing
8 the options and then I will let you know about how much
9 acreage we damaged during this process.

10 --o0o--

11 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: Okay. The first agency that is
12 really a big player in this is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
13 Service. And they are the federal agency that oversees the
14 Endangered Species Act of 1973. And they are the agency that
15 lists these species as threatened and endangered. And they
16 ensure the protection of these listed species.

17 --o0o--

18 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: We also have the California
19 Department of Fish and Game. And this is a State agency that
20 oversees the wildlife resources of our state. They're also
21 involved in protecting the state listed species as well as
22 regulating and enforcing our creeks.

23 --o0o--

24 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: Okay. The U.S. Army Corps of
25 Engineers is a federal agency that enforces activities in the

1 nation's waters. And they share this enforcement with the
2 Environmental Protection Agency, the EPA.

3 --o0o--

4 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: And Regional Water Quality
5 Control Board is a division of the State Water Resources
6 Control Board. And they develop and enforce water quality
7 objectives under the Clean Water Act. And these last few
8 agencies are potentially involved in permits we may need when
9 doing our restoration work.

10 --o0o--

11 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: Okay. The first habitat that
12 I'm going to describe is the riparian. This is associated
13 with rivers and stream banks. This is a portion of riparian
14 vegetation on Don Julio Creek on the base. It's typically
15 comprised of plants that require a lot of water, like
16 cottonwoods and willows. And we tend to find a lot of
17 wildlife species here because it provides food, water, cover,
18 nesting areas, et cetera.

19 --o0o--

20 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: And more specifically on the
21 base, we have what's called a valley foothill riparian. The
22 Giant Garter Snake, which you can see on the poster board
23 here or a little better here. These are up to about five
24 feet long. They are a federally threatened species that
25 could potentially use the riparian as part of their habitat.

1 We also have the Elderberry shrubs that exist on our
2 riparian. And this is a potential habitat for the Valley
3 Elderberry Longhorn Beetle, which is also a federally
4 threatened species.

5 --o0o--

6 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: And these are about three
7 quarters of an inch long and they spend most of their life in
8 a larva stage living in the stems of these shrubs.

9 --o0o--

10 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: One of the other habitats is
11 the freshwater marsh. And these are along the banks of the
12 streams where the water floods up for prolonged periods of
13 time. And one of the plant species that most people
14 recognize from this are the cattails, as you see here. We
15 also have creek beds themselves, which have year-round flows
16 of water to support fish, amphibians and reptiles such as the
17 Garter Snake.

18 --o0o--

19 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: And we have vernal pools as
20 well. And these are slight depressions that you can see kind
21 of in here and the flowers around the edge here. They have
22 types of soil that do not allow the water to completely drain
23 out. And so we get pools during the rainy season. And the
24 federally threatened vernal pool Fairy Shrimp requires the
25 vernal pool for its existence.

1 --o0o--

2 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: And this is the Fairy Shrimp
3 here. And they do swim upside down like this.

4 --o0o--

5 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: Okay. The first term I'll
6 describe for you is restoration. This is basically when we
7 attempt to bring an ecological system back to its original
8 state.

9 --o0o--

10 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: And we also have creation. And
11 this is when we would try to construct an ecological system
12 where it didn't previously exist.

13 --o0o--

14 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: Another important term is
15 preservation. This is when we set aside a habitat forever,
16 so we would never develop or damage it in any way. And it's
17 important to note also that when we do the creation or the
18 restoration, those areas also have to be preserved in the
19 future.

20 --o0o--

21 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: Okay. A couple of other terms.
22 One, the mitigation bank. This is an area of created or
23 preserved wetlands that we can substitute for our own. So
24 basically, we would pay a company to substitute those for us
25 as opposed to a non-bank off-site location, where we would,

1 the Air Force, would actually go out and purchase the land
2 and preserve it or create whatever we choose to do there.
3 And we would -- this all needs to be done in concurrence with
4 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

5 --o0o--

6 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: Okay. For the portion on
7 impacted vegetation, I'm going to go ahead and use some
8 poster boards. You also -- if you can't see this very well,
9 since I can only come up so far, there is the other poster
10 board, they're in your handout packet, if you want to see the
11 colors a little more closely.

12 Basically, this is Don Julio Creek and Magpie Creek
13 along the west area of the base. The green portions here are
14 the riparian before any impacts. And that was approximately
15 three acres that were damaged -- well, this is a freshwater
16 marsh. This is Beaver Pond with that.

17 --o0o--

18 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: Okay. So then on -- what you
19 actually have in your packets there we've highlighted the
20 gray areas that were actually impacted. So the riparian is
21 three acres, which is about roughly the size of a football
22 field, the freshwater marsh which was .67 acres, and the
23 creek beds 1.79 acres. The vernal pools, we have a couple of
24 different areas that Mr. Brunner described briefly. The
25 truck damaged pools are up here highlighted in gray. We also

1 have a couple along Don Julio Creek, down here. And that was
2 at .22 acres. And then we have Elderberry shrubs, which is a
3 small area here at .25 acres. And that's roughly the size of
4 a basketball court.

5 --o0o--

6 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: And with that I'll turn it back
7 over to Mr. Brunner.

8 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Thank you. Okay. Let's go to
9 the option discussion.

10 Next slide.

11 --o0o--

12 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Now, the criteria that we have
13 for the options for the additional mitigation work, and that
14 is the, again, I'll make a reminder here that the Air Force
15 must restore the damaged creek, the creek that's on the base
16 itself and the damage that took place.

17 The additional mitigation work, that I was talking
18 about before, is typically required for restoration work
19 above and beyond just repairing the creek. So that's what
20 we're looking at for the discussions from you all today on
21 alternatives.

22 Now, the additional work could occur on site or it
23 could occur off site. The on-site criteria is, again, a
24 future land use decision on that as to how does that impact.
25 So future land use is important to a decision. This one was

1 to mitigate restoring on site.

2 And then another alternative, depending upon the
3 types that are available, these habitats that we have on base
4 do require certain drainage conditions and soils and that to
5 do it. That will be a deciding factor. Also, in the
6 decision process, we have that available on site to do
7 depending upon the extent that we have to mitigate on site.
8 So that would also be a decision factor in what we're doing.

9 And the off site is a point where we have banks and
10 non-banks.

11 And next slide.

12 --o0o--

13 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Now, if one was to go through and
14 do additional work off site, the list of the banks are shown
15 here. There's a bank that is already prepared, ready to
16 accept us to go and do the work at that site already. They
17 already have the conditions there. A couple of those places
18 are Sheridan Mitigation Bank and Orchard Creek Mitigation
19 Bank. And this particular map here, we have a poster board
20 up here. Later on, you might want to go look at that in the
21 back for reference.

22 But here's Sheridan and here's Orchard Creek,
23 McClellan is right here, Sacramento and Yuba City is here.
24 And you can see the proximity of where we are. The City of
25 Roseville is right here. And here on this particular map you

1 can see that they're shown in green.

2 There's also the option that's out there what we
3 call non-bank, as Kirsten was describing, where the Air Force
4 would need to go and acquire land, and buy or work out some
5 type of an agreement where we would get the land and then
6 create or build that type of habitat at those particular
7 sites.

8 Next slide.

9 --o0o--

10 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: This slide is trying to give you
11 possible alternatives to talk about, simulated discussion.
12 Let me describe it to you. On this table on the left-hand
13 side are habitats and the animals and that vegetation that we
14 are trying to restore. There's the Elderberry shrubs,
15 freshwater marsh, riparian, Giant Garter Snake in this
16 category, vernal pools here. Those are really three habitats
17 that we're trying to mitigate for and restore.

18 The alternatives that we see, at least being
19 considered so far, unless there's some innovative thoughts
20 that come forth tonight or during the written discussion, is
21 the on-site, off-site, at a bank, non-bank off-site types of
22 alternatives that we have. Now, as you look through this
23 column, what we've tried to do is price through here a cost
24 per acre for your reference points, so you'd have something
25 to kind of gauge by as to what does it cost to restore or

1 create or preserve per acre for one of these habitats that we
2 have.

3 For example, on the Elderberry shrubs, we foresee
4 that it will cost us somewhere around \$12,000 per acre to
5 restore on site. On the off-bank work, off-site bank work,
6 we have to restore on site, so again it is going to be
7 \$12,000 to restore on site. If we went off site to create
8 additional mitigation there, it's \$36,000 an acre. On site
9 at McClellan it would be \$12,000 an acre if we had to create.

10 And the difference there is because of acquiring the
11 land or getting someone else to do the work at a site and the
12 cost of it associated with that. And the same thing over
13 here in the non-bank area. Again, we have to do the work on
14 site, so that's the \$12,000 per acre that would be there.
15 And then there's the \$36,000 cost per acre to create off
16 site.

17 So these are ballpark estimates that we have. It
18 shows that going off site is more expensive than about --
19 three times more than doing it on site. The same type of
20 thing falls through for these other categories. In the
21 freshwater marsh, the restoration on site is about \$15,000
22 per acre if we were to create it. \$15,000 per acre there
23 to -- about the same type of concept going on there.

24 Now, interesting here on the off-site bank, there is
25 not a bank in the community around here that we can do this

1 type of habitat that's already created, from what we can
2 gather from our consultants. So that option is precluded for
3 that particular habitat. So what we would need to do, if we
4 went off site, is to acquire land and create the habitat.
5 And we figure that would cost around \$20,000 per acre to do
6 that.

7 Now, on vernal pools, there's three options on site
8 that we have. Restoration on site to fix what we damaged and
9 that would be \$50,000 per acre. To preserve the habitat that
10 we have there now, we'd have additional vernal pools. If you
11 look at our maps, you'll see that there's a whole bunch of
12 vernal pools at McClellan on the west side. There is an
13 option, potentially, of just preserving them forever at this
14 site. And there's a range here in cost to do the preserving
15 of the sites. Most likely, it's on the low end of this
16 scale. We don't have that locked in yet, but we think it's
17 going to be on the low end. And then, if we went off site --
18 or on site to create a site, or create a vernal pool, it's
19 \$50,000 per acre.

20 If you go off site, then we have these various
21 ranges that you see here. The trend on off-site bank and the
22 non-bank off site is that it becomes more expensive. And
23 that's really the general trend on this. If you can do the
24 mitigation on site, it's going to be less expensive, if you
25 have the land available. If you go off site, it's going to

1 be more expensive.

2 Next slide.

3 --o0o--

4 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Okay. This is my final slide
5 before we get to your comment, is a reminder that the
6 restoration work itself along the creek will be done. And
7 what we're here to talk about is really the mitigation beyond
8 that restoration work or how will that get done.

9 Future land use is, not the Air Force, into the
10 future past 2001, particularly. That's when the base closes.
11 We have another occupant there, most likely the LRA, that
12 will be involved with future land use decisions. And the
13 outcome of this project will influence whatever the future
14 occupant has for that land. And with that, I turn it back
15 over to Merianne.

16 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Thank you. Okay. Does anyone
17 have any questions to clarify something that was asked?

18 MR. YARBROUGH: Yes. I was wondering why the
19 Swainson's Hawk was not mentioned as well as the danger to
20 current species? I mean this is, from the way I understand
21 it from people I've talked to in the environmental
22 management, is this is Swainson's Hawk's area, territory.

23 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: I believe that they are state
24 listed not federally listed for their species of concern for
25 the State. And we're working with Fish and Wildlife to do

1 that, correct?

2 MR. BECHTA: Swainson's Hawk is State listed as
3 threatened. And the damage along the creek isn't really
4 Swainson's Hawk habitat. They do nest in riparian and that's
5 kind of a small area for them to nest in. They are in the
6 area on occasion but that would be the grassland habitat.

7 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Just before you're done, could
8 you state your name for the record?

9 MR. BECHTA: I'm sorry. Sean Bechta.

10 MR. YARBROUGH: Chuck Yarbrough. There are reports
11 that people have seen the Swainson's Hawks in the area.

12 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Yeah, to date as we worked with
13 the Fish and Wildlife and the folks at -- you know, Fish and
14 Game has been involved too, that Swainson's Hawk has not come
15 up during the discussion. If it should, then we should work
16 with it, but so far it hasn't come up.

17 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Sir, did you have a question?

18 MR. HAYER: Yes. Erwin Hayer, H-a-y-e-r. On the
19 riparian, you list 3.03 acres. Is that what was damaged?

20 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Yes.

21 MR. HAYER: That's going to be restored at its
22 normal location?

23 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Yes.

24 MR. HAYER: Do you have to restore or create more
25 riparian at another location according to the Fish and

1 Wildlife?

2 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Fish and Wildlife will require us
3 -- whenever you do a project that impacts the habitat,
4 there's a requirement to do additional work. So we will end
5 up doing additional work, yes, in that habitat.

6 MR. HAYER: And that's not included in the 3.03
7 acres?

8 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: It is not.

9 MR. HAYER: So how many more acres is going to be
10 done?

11 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: We don't know that answer yet.
12 The Fish and Wildlife, in the letter that I had referenced,
13 has provided us their indications of what it is. We are
14 working with Fish and Wildlife to make sure we understand
15 what that letter is. And the reason why we're doing that is,
16 an example, in the letter that they sent to us, they asked us
17 to repair something like 58 acres. If you read the letter.

18 MR. HAYER: No, I haven't seen it.

19 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: We damaged five. And so we need
20 to work with them to figure out what is it that they're
21 talking about, because there's a missing ingredient in this.
22 And we don't -- we want to do what we need to do and do it
23 right, but we do not just want to do things and spend money.

24 MR. HAYER: On the vernal pools, it has .22 acres?

25 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Uh-huh.

1 MR. HAYER: That's what was damaged?

2 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Yes. The numbers that were
3 listed here were the damaged acres.

4 MR. HAYER: And that's going to be restored in
5 location?

6 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Correct.

7 MR. HAYER: And then you've got other vernal pools
8 that you have to have additional property somewhere, is that
9 what I understand here tonight?

10 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: There's a good chance that there
11 would be additional vernal pools that would have to be in our
12 mitigation process with Fish and Wildlife to preserve or
13 create.

14 MR. HAYER: How many acres total in vernal pools is
15 in the area north of Don Julio Creek? Do you have any idea
16 on that, total acres?

17 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: I don't.

18 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: I believe it was around 13
19 acres on the entire base on the vernal pool.

20 MR. HAYER: Thirteen acres north of Magpie or the
21 whole base?

22 MS. CHRISTOPHERSON: The whole base.

23 MR. HAYER: Thank you.

24 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Are there any more questions?

25 MS. GUERRA: I was wondering the letter you received

1 from Fish and Wildlife on their mitigation, which was dated
2 September 3rd, when do you plan on responding to their
3 letter? Is this going to be after the decision on what the
4 mitigation is going to be? I don't understand, because the
5 letter was for you and you haven't yet responded to it.

6 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: The exact date I don't have for
7 you. We need to come with a good understanding of what they
8 have before we come to our decision. We do have a good
9 understanding as to what they're asking us to do. Working
10 with them, it would -- I don't see how we could come to a
11 decision. So we hope to have that -- we have the schedule in
12 here. We have the DOPAA prepared by the -- I think the 25th
13 of November. So in that time frame is when we would expect
14 to have a response back and be working with them.

15 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Could you please give your
16 name.

17 MS. GUERRA: Sheila Guerra. I'm also wondering if
18 the RAB is going to have a role in any of this, because our
19 next public meeting is December 2nd, and we did have -- we
20 did have a working order. We were working with this also on
21 the Committee. So it kind of falls in between our public
22 meetings, so I was concerned with the date of the final --
23 let's see, November 19th for the written comment. If that
24 could be extended just maybe a week longer and -- because the
25 meeting is on December 2nd.

1 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Sheila, your question is is the
2 RAB going to have an involvement? I think the RAB can have
3 an involvement. We can work on scheduling the times, but as
4 far as a decision input into it, other than advice, like from
5 the community, that's where it would be and that's advice.
6 It isn't part of a, say a decision. It would be part of the
7 advice from the public, just like tonight.

8 MR. BLAETH: My name is G. Blauth. I do have a
9 question, that is, you correct me if I'm wrong, everything I
10 get in regards to this meeting and the meeting last night is
11 that actually the answers are really not forthcoming at all.
12 And apparently, you're tapping in the dark. To me, it
13 appears as if we're having a soccer field where we expand the
14 goals or we go ahead and sort of change the length of the
15 field or whatever it is or the amount of players. Because
16 apparently you have no answers whatsoever of what is really
17 and precisely to be done, where it has to be done and where
18 it should be done and exact amounts of money.

19 So therefore, I question why we have a meeting in
20 the first place.

21 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Yeah, well, I think -- let's go
22 on to the next question.

23 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Chuck?

24 MR. YARBROUGH: Yeah, I think what Sheila Guerra was
25 saying here for the Restoration Advisory Board is we would

1 like an extension of this public comment period, so the
2 Restoration Advisory Board can give some direct advice to the
3 Air Force at that meeting. And if that's possible, we'd like
4 to ask for that extension.

5 I talked with all the community chairs of the
6 Restoration Advisory Board and we all agree we'd like to have
7 that extension. So if that's possible, we would appreciate
8 it.

9 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: And that was Chuck Yarbrough.

10 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: Yeah. We'll probably extend the
11 comment period.

12 MR. HAYER: Erwin Hayer. I have a question on the
13 alternatives. When will we see anything that's finalizing,
14 any kind of alternative and then who makes the decision on
15 what the preferred alternative is?

16 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: On the schedule that we have,
17 right here, the alternatives will flow -- on the 19th of
18 November when we hope to have your responses. I understand
19 what your request was there, Chuck, for that. But on the
20 19th is planned to have the written and verbal comments in.
21 During this time period between here and the 25th of November
22 on the schedule, the Air Force within my group, the Commander
23 and other players that will be at McClellan, will have a
24 chance to review what the options are and we'll make a
25 conclusion of what the alternatives should be. And then the

1 Air Force and I will have a critical role along with other
2 players on base, as to decide what is the preferred
3 alternative.

4 At that point, we will then start the project. We
5 plan on letting people know what that decision process is and
6 what we're doing. And we also plan on putting it on our web
7 page. We hope to have that on our web page, if not sooner
8 than mid-December. In the mid-December time frame, people
9 can see that. I know that we interact with the RAB all the
10 time and they would be able to see it and get the word out to
11 people as to what the preferred alternative was.

12 We'd analyze it. Go through here with other
13 alternatives. And then you have your next chance really to
14 comment as a public, per se, on this process when we publish
15 the document as a draft form. And then we'd get your
16 comments back during the January time period.

17 MR. HAYER: I still haven't seen an alternative that
18 I can look at and try to do any figuring on to really make
19 comments on.

20 DIRECTOR BRUNNER: That's true. This meeting isn't
21 aimed to present alternatives. It's aimed to hear from you
22 all as the initial thought of a scoping process to get
23 alternatives from you, what would you like to have done. And
24 part of the National Environmental Policy Act Process is to
25 get your input so that we can take into consideration what

1 would you like to have done on site or off site, so that when
2 we do do this, we then have an opportunity to take your
3 thoughts into consideration versus just proposing something
4 and not having you have a chance to participate in the
5 process.

6 MR. HAYER: Still very confusing.

7 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: We'll enter into our -- another
8 question, Chuck?

9 MR. YARBROUGH: I'm sorry.

10 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: We're getting ready to enter
11 into our formal comment period, public comment. And as I
12 mentioned before, on the table we do have the green comment
13 cards, the sheets. So tonight we will be accepting written
14 comments. You can mail them in, again, by November 19th or
15 verbal comments. And if you prefer to do a verbal comment, I
16 ask that you come to the microphone and please state your
17 name and also spell your last name for the court reporter.

18 And we are going to ask that you keep your comments
19 to three minutes. And in order to facilitate that, we have a
20 system here, when you first come up after you state your name
21 and spell your name, we'll start the three-minute timing
22 period. We'll put up a green spot for you. After two
23 minutes, we'll put up a yellow spot. This is kind of like a
24 caution sign that you'll have a minute to complete your
25 sentences. And then at the three-minute mark, I will be

1 reminding you that your three minutes are up and ask you to
2 please summarize your comments.

3 Okay. Come on up and make a comment.

4 MR. YARBROUGH: Yes, my name is Chuck Yarbrough,
5 Y-a-r-b-r-o-u-g-h. I'm the community co-chair of the
6 McClellan Air Force Base Restoration Advisory Board,
7 environmental. And I would like to say that -- I hope this
8 mike's on.

9 I believe strongly that actually the work should be
10 done on McClellan Air Force Base. That is, all the
11 restoration, the environmental mitigation should be done on
12 McClellan Air Force Base including the damage.

13 After all, what happened here was unfortunately the
14 civil engineers of McClellan Air Force Base went in there
15 without the proper permits and dredged and widened the creeks
16 without permits. And so we ended up with this damage. The
17 damage should be done at McClellan and the restoration and
18 any improvement should be done on McClellan, because that's
19 where it all occurred.

20 And also this thing about will it affect reuse. I
21 don't see how in the world it can, if you do it properly.
22 After all, we have the creeks there. That's where the main
23 damage was done to the creeks. There are no projects
24 scheduled at this time whatsoever to improve those channels.
25 I only have one project on base that goes 150 feet away from

1 Raley Boulevard, east of Raley Boulevard. That's the only
2 project there is. And that's only being studied at this time
3 with the earliest start date of 2000.

4 That came from one of the people on staff with the
5 Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, SAFCA. Now, these
6 creeks where part of the main damage was done, even the
7 vernal pools, are really small around the creeks.

8 The only other thing that's been proposed in the
9 past is to do a flood control channel between the two creeks.
10 And on Magpie and Don -- I mean Don Julio and Magpie is where
11 that would go, but it's not in any project or established yet
12 to go there.

13 But even so, you can do your mitigation work, your
14 damage work, everything that you have proposed from Fish and
15 Wildlife, you can do it on base. And there's even areas at
16 the north, particularly where there are environmental zones,
17 vernal pools and whatnot, you can still even put it there.
18 So you've got plenty of room on McClellan Air Force Base.
19 It's going to be a lot cheaper, less expensive for the
20 taxpayers' money, this is where it should be done.

21 There isn't any ands, ifs and buts about it. This
22 is the place, McClellan Air Force Base. There isn't any
23 restriction -- the only proposal to put any improvements is
24 in the north, north of Don Julio Creek, and that's so many
25 feet. It's 100, 150 feet north of Don Julio Creek. So

1 there's no reason why this project -- the total thing that
2 Fish and Wildlife has recommended can be done on McClellan
3 and should be done at McClellan.

4 Thank you.

5 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Thank you.

6 Sheila?

7 MR. GUERRA: My name is Sheila Guerra, G-u-e-r-r-a.

8 And I agree with what Chuck Yarbrough just said as far as
9 keeping that as the area of mitigation. I also feel that
10 there's also been a lot of money already spent through the
11 years if we go back to the history of the west area of the
12 base.

13 There's been a lot of good things, positive things
14 that Mr. Brunner and they have projected in that area. And I
15 feel that we shouldn't destroy it by putting anything out
16 there that would harm the environmental area. The mitigation
17 kept on base would be the best choice. And it would be the
18 cheapest for the taxpayer.

19 Thank you.

20 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Thank you. Would anyone else
21 like to make a comment?

22 MR. HAYER: My name is Erwin Hayer, spelled
23 H-a-y-e-r. I attended the meeting last night and tonight
24 both. And I hope it's not a waste of time, but the total
25 acreage damaged on the different types of wetlands and so

1 forth and the restoration, creation and preservation at the
2 three different locations is how many acres? If you can't
3 tell us, who can? Is there some rule somewhere in the Fish
4 and Wildlife or I heard that it was five times what was
5 damaged, but I don't know whether that's correct or not.

6 I just can't understand why we're having these
7 meetings with no more information than you can give us, so
8 that we can sit down and try to figure out and make
9 recommendations to you on different options. I haven't seen
10 an option yet.

11 Thank you.

12 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Thank you.

13 Anyone else?

14 MR. BLAETH: I can make it very short. I'd like to
15 say --

16 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Sir, can you please come to the
17 microphone, state your name and spell your name please.

18 MR. BLAETH: My name is Blauth, B, as in boy,
19 l-a-u-t, as in Tom, h. And all I have to say is Mr. Hayer
20 could not have actually said it any better for us.

21 Thank you.

22 FACILITATOR BRIGGS: Thank you.

23 Is there anyone else?

24 Okay. That concludes our public comment period and
25 our meeting.

1 If you'd like to take a look at the poster board,
2 our staff will be around. If you want to ask questions,
3 we'll be available.

4 Thank you.

5 (Thereupon the McClellan Air Force Base
6 public meeting was concluded at 7:30 p.m.)

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1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

2 I, JAMES F. PETERS, a Certified Shorthand Reporter
3 of the State of California, and Registered Professional
4 Reporter, do hereby certify:

5 That I am a disinterested person herein; that the
6 foregoing McClellan Air Force Base public hearing was
7 reported in shorthand by me, James F. Peters, a Certified
8 Shorthand Reporter of the State of California, and thereafter
9 transcribed into typewriting.

10 I further certify that I am not of counsel or
11 attorney for any of the parties to said public hearing nor in
12 any way interested in the outcome of said public hearing.

13 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
14 this 6th day of November, 1998.

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